

THE JRTC AND FORT POLK

GUARDIAN

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Planning ahead of emergency evacuation key to success

DPTMS

FORT POLK, La. — Safe and effective evacuation requires planning ahead: There may be no advance warning.

Plan to use the primary evacuation route recommended by the installation, but identify alternative evacuation routes in advance and gather appropriate maps to take along in your emergency supply kit.

If you don't have access to a vehicle, make other arrangements ahead of time. Identify locations that will accept your pet in the

event of an emergency. Service animals are always permitted inside civilian shelters.

Plan how you will care for your animals, microchip or tag pets clearly and make a small pet emergency supply kit. Include food, water, leash, medicine, vet documents, a photograph of your pet and a small toy.

Remember, when an emergency occurs pets may become frightened. Allow extra

time to secure your pet. When making your plan, also consider any additional special needs specific to your family.

NOTICE

**EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS
KIT**



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For more information on Fort Polk units and happenings visit the following Facebook pages:

**@JRTCOperationsGrp, @
BayneJonesACH or @fortpolkmwr.**

Severe Weather Season 2021

Evacuation - Lead the Way to Safety



Evacuations are more common than many people realize. When evacuations are necessary, local officials provide information to the public through the media, by use of sirens or telephone calls. Never ignore an evacuation warning. Timely evacuation is critical to the safety of your Family.

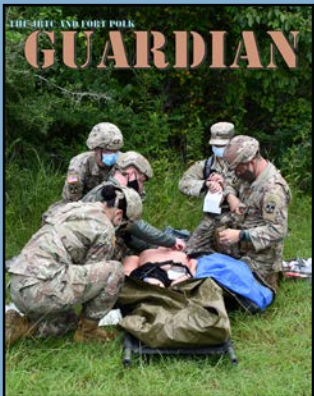
Safe and effective evacuation requires planning ahead -There may be no advance warning.

- If you are on base follow your established command procedure
- Know local procedures such as Noncombatant Evacuation Operations
- Include emergency status accountability information in your evacuation kit
- If you don't have access to a vehicle, make other arrangements ahead of time
- Plan how you will care for your animals
- Develop a Family communication procedure in case you are separated



Actions to Take During an Evacuation:

- Report your status to your command as soon as you are safely relocated. (ADPAAS) <https://adpaas.army.mil>
- Check on neighbors who may need special assistance
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and a cap
- Secure your home. Close and lock all doors and windows. Turn off gas, electricity and water. Unplug nonessential electrical equipment
- Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding
- Listen to a radio or TV for local evacuation instructions
- Be safe on the road. Take one car to reduce congestion and delay. Follow the recommended evacuation routes and zones; shortcuts may be blocked. Stay alert for damaged or missing roads, bridges and structures
- Avoid downed power lines
- Communicate your location, let others know where you are going



Cover Photo: Medics work on "injured" Soldiers (manikins) during Delayed Evacuation Casualty Management course held on North Fort Aug. 6. (U.S. Army photo by Angie Thorne)

Medics take on new, vital DECM training

By **ANGIE THORNE**

Public affairs and communication

FORT POLK, La. — The old adage, “You learn something new everyday,” is true for everyone, but when it comes to medics, those words could be the difference between life and death.

That’s why Staff Sgt. Cameron Reeves, Bayne Jones Army Community Hospital education noncommissioned officer in charge, applied to get the Delayed Evacuation Casualty Management course at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk about six months ago. The first five-day course was held on Fort Polk Aug. 2-6.

The Army’s focus, according to Army Medicine, is shifting to large-scale combat operations in future battlefields. This type of training is a priority because the ability to treat casualties at the point of injury and quickly evacuate them to a higher level of care are luxuries predicted to be limited in future conflicts.

“Basically, what the training does is teach 68W combat medics what to do after tactical combat casualty care is over, evacuation is delayed and we are unable, for whatever reason, to get the wounded Soldiers to advanced care,” said Reeves.

The DECM training covers 32 hours of both didactic lessons and advanced procedural skills including an autologous blood transfusion lab, bladder catheterization and chest tube thoracostomy.

DECM provides the skills needed to manage casualties after the three phases of tactical combat casualty care are over, as well as training and equipping medics with the capability to sustain a casualty in a place where little to no medical support beyond the combat medic is available, said Army Medicine.

“With the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq,

Medics taking the Delayed Evacuation Casualty Management course, held Aug. 2-6, gather medical supplies before a training scenario begins Aug. 6.



ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN

After treating the “injured” Soldiers, medics strap them to stretchers and ruck march them to the Joint Readiness Training Center Rear Aid Station to continue the training Aug. 6.



Please see **Medics**, page 5

Briefs

Walk-in vaccination event

The Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk hosts a walk-in COVID-19 Vaccination event at the Post Main Exchange (7742 Colorado Avenue) from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Saturday.

The Moderna Vaccine will be available to any Soldier, Family member, retiree, civilian employee or contractor 18 years and older. If this is your second

dose, please bring your vaccination record with you.

Entering BJACH

Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital requires all non-emergency patients (Retirees, Active Duty, Family Members) to enter the facility through Entrance B, during normal operational hours: Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Entrance B is located near to the lab and pharmacy. Upon arrival you will be screened for COVID-19 and have your temperature taken. If you are presenting

signs or symptoms of COVID-19 you will be redirected for evaluation.

Until further notice: BJACH will also resume its one visitor policy for its inpatient population. This will primarily affect the labor and delivery and mixed medical surgical departments. It is important for mission readiness that everyone remain vigilant. As hospitals around the state are filling up with COVID-19 patients, BJACH must protect healthcare providers and patients to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Please see **Briefs**, page 8

AI research strengthens certainty in decision-making

U.S. ARMY DEVCOM

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — A new framework for neural networks' processing enables artificial intelligence to better judge objects and potential threats in hostile environments.

Researchers from the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, known as DEVCOM, Army Research Laboratory and university partners from the Internet of Battlefield Things Collaborative Research Alliance, or IoBT CRA, developed a method for neural networks to be more confident in their understanding of battlefield environments.

To achieve this, researchers reviewed frameworks to represent uncertainty, categorized sources of uncertainty in military information-networks' common operating environment and, most importantly, created solutions to manage uncertainty within systems.

The researchers developed insights from the uncertainty management approaches into a workflow that maximizes effectiveness in accomplishing mission goals, despite the presence of uncertainty in data inputs. Through this process, they teach neural networks when to say, "I am sure," and be right about it.

This improved confidence in neural networks has significant implications for the battlefield, as certainty in AI conclusions and behaviors is paramount to ensure ethical and effective decision-making autonomy in combat.

"Modern defense applications, like aided target recognition, increasingly leverage advances in AI to enhance automation of various battlefield functions" said Dr. Maggie Wigness, Army researcher and deputy collaborative alliance manager of the IoBT CRA. "A key component of improving automation is to improve machine confidence in understanding its environment, so that the machine can exercise 'good judgment.'"

Older intelligent-system technologies often relied on approaches that were well-understood by engineers to deliver answers, but the rise of AI in general, and neural networks in particular changes that.

"Older data fusion technologies like a green circular radar screen, resembling those often shown in older movies, would show targets as dots bleeping on the screen," said Dr. Tarek Abdelzaher, a professor at the University of Illinois and the academic lead of the lab's IoBT CRA. "Operators knew something was approaching because they could see the dots and knew what a dot meant."

Tomorrow's operating environment will be filled with smart autonomous devices and platforms that create diverse and complex information signatures.

"AI can pick up the data from these com-



Tomorrow's operating environment will be filled with smart autonomous devices and platforms that create diverse and complex information signatures.

plex information signatures, but the logic that connects those signals to a conclusion such as, 'this is a target,' is a lot more complicated and difficult for the machine to indicate to the operator," he said.

Because of more subtle signals that operators may not understand, it is no longer always clear why a data fusion system thinks an item is, for example, a tank versus a civilian, nor is it always clear how confident the system is in its assessment.

The researchers address this through their paper, On Uncertainty and Robustness in Large-Scale Intelligent Data Fusion Systems, published in the 2nd IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Machine Intelligence, and through solutions developed in the IoBT CRA, which are helping to enable unconstrained command and control of complex, intelligent, pervasive systems-of-systems in modern battlespaces.

"Uncertainty measurement and mitigation for machine learning frameworks is just one example of how the IoBT CRA is providing the resiliency needed to produce a fighting network," Wigness said. "We know that the Army's multi-domain operational environment is going to be highly dynamic and contested, which is why one of the main research focus areas of the program is on generating scientific contributions that directly address resiliency and robustness."

This work and additional related work in the IoBT CRA, unlike other mainstream AI research, was specifically designed by the IoBT



CRA to work within the battlefield setting, focusing on mitigating uncertainty in hostile environments under significant resource constraints and communication bottlenecks. Hostile environments create unique issues for the Army — platforms are destroyed, communication links are disrupted, sensors get infiltrated to give bad data, yet the Army relies on the AI to continue to work correctly.

The researchers said an AI-enabled common operating environment is expected to withstand failures, circumvent its inability to communicate, and reach accurate conclusions.

Medics

Continued from page 3

we owned the air, so we had tremendous success in getting casualties evacuated within the golden hour to higher care," Reeves said. "This is a new skill for 68W. With the potential for future wars being against someone that has the same advantages in the air, medics might have to sit on casualties for days or weeks before we are able to get them to higher care."

Reeves said if medics don't know how to care for their injured Soldiers past initial care, those Soldiers could die.

"It's incredibly important to know how to sustain them as long as needed before they go to higher care," he said.

Reeves said he has also been trying to incorporate rotational Soldiers in the training.

"COVID-19 has made that a challenge, but we are starting to get rotational Soldiers in our classes," he said. "Two Soldiers from the Connecticut National Guard that were here for the previous the Joint Readiness Training Center rotation are currently taking the class, as well as medics from the 115th Field Hospital and Geronimo medics."

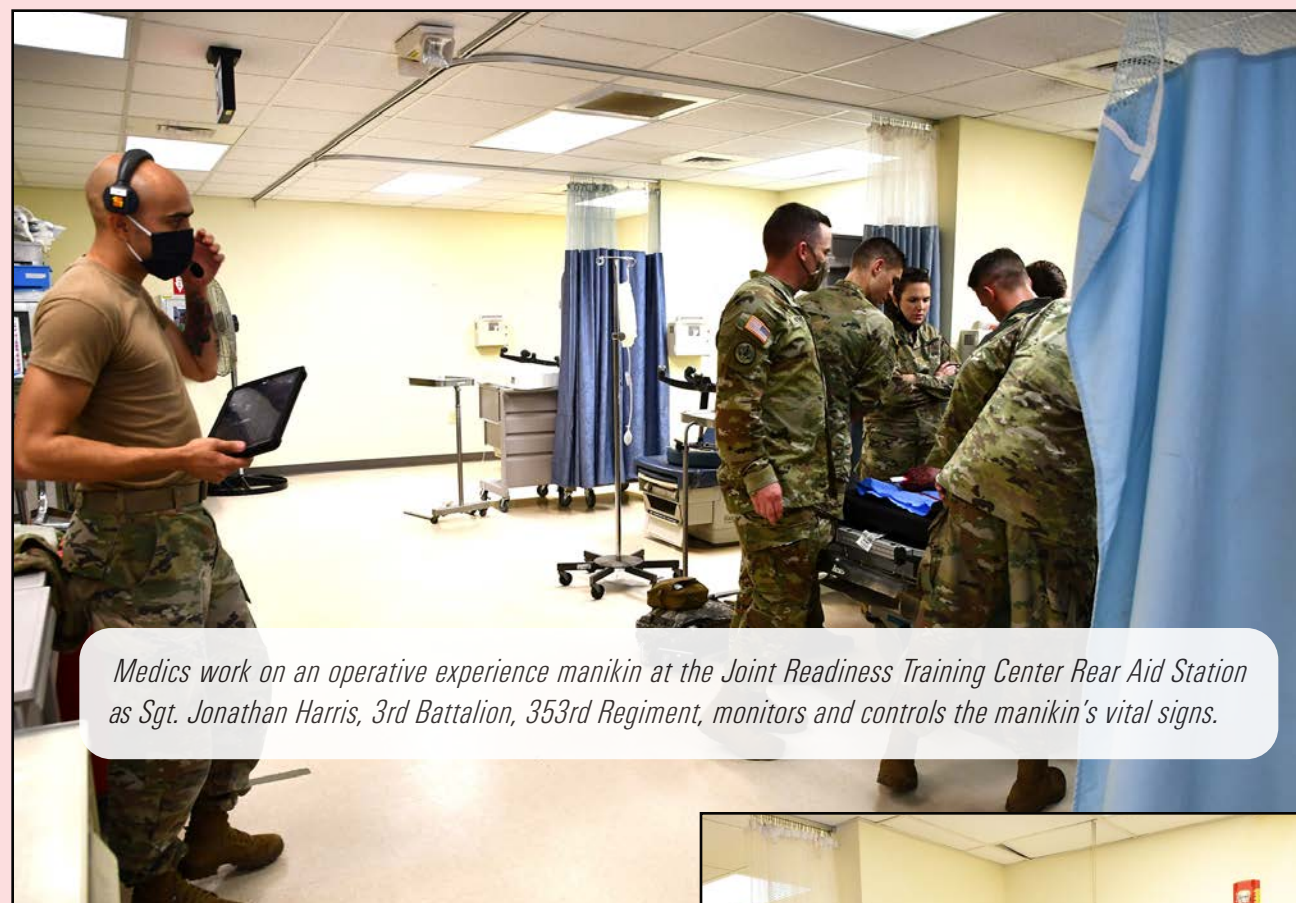
Aug. 6 was the last day of the class. With classes over, medics were set to put what they learned into action.

Medics met in a wooded location adjacent to a building on North Fort Polk. They got their medical supplies in order, mimicked the actions of getting to injured Soldiers (plastic manikin) in a battlefield situation and began treating the "injuries" listed in the in the scenario. Once stabilized, they loaded their two "injured" Soldiers on stretchers and did a ruck march to a higher echelon medical aid station — in this case the Joint Readiness Training Center Rear Aid Station.

Once they reached the aid station, the medics switched to operative experience manikins — an advanced robotic manikin able to breath, have a heart beat, blink and more. The manikins were preprogrammed with the same list of injuries that had already been treated in the field. The difference being the real world vital signs being remote controlled by an operator with an iPad in their hands.

Sgt. Jonathan Harris, 3rd Battalion, 353rd Infantry Regiment, medical noncommissioned officer in charge and one of the Soldiers operating a remote control, said the manikins belong to the 353rd and they were happy to use them to help better train the medics taking the DECM class.

"Based on the injuries that are part of the training, as the medics treat their Soldier, we can adjust the manikins vitals according



Medics work on an operative experience manikin at the Joint Readiness Training Center Rear Aid Station as Sgt. Jonathan Harris, 3rd Battalion, 353rd Regiment, monitors and controls the manikin's vital signs.

to the treatments they provide. As long as the medics are doing something correctly, we can match that according to the vital signs. If they get something wrong, we make the vital signs drop," he said.

Harris said it's vital to get as close as possible to a real world situation.

"Working on an injury in a hospital setting after the initial battlefield point of injury is vital to a medic's training," he said.

Pfc. A.J. Moody, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment said he wanted to take part in the training to learn skills to better take care of his guys.

"They depend on us to keep them alive. If they can't depend on us, what good are we as medics," he said.

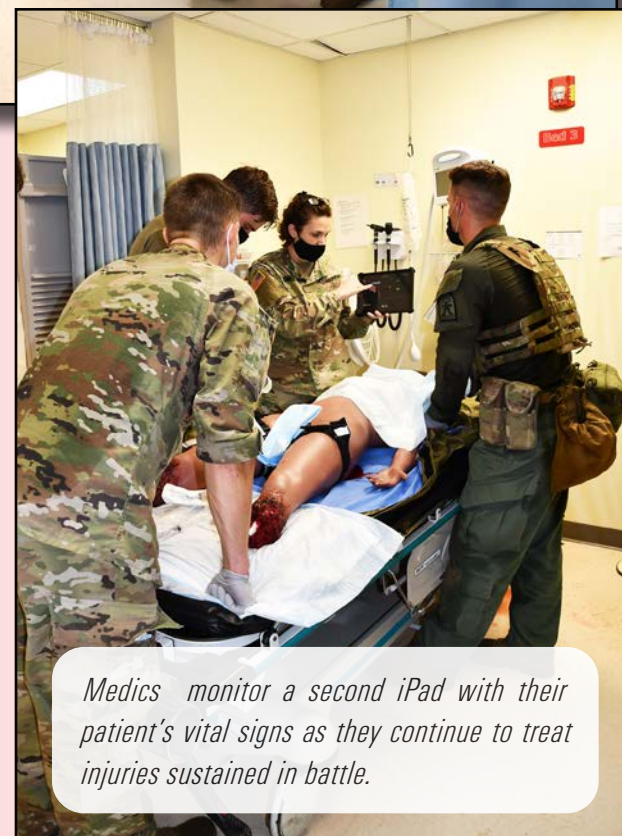
Moody said battle situations down range are changing.

"If we have to keep an injured Soldier with us until we can get them to advanced care, we have to know how to best do that. That's what this training is about," he said.

Moody said as part of the medic training, they learn things they need to know, but don't always know how to tie them together to make proper and important decisions.

"I think this training has given us the skills to make those connections and an idea of what it's like to help a Soldier from injury to hospital with real world experience," he said.

Sgt. Anthony Ryan, 142nd Area Support Medical Company, Connecticut National Guard, was one of the rotational Soldiers taking part in the medic training.



Medics monitor a second iPad with their patient's vital signs as they continue to treat injuries sustained in battle.

Ryan said the class was a great opportunity to further his training.

"Training like this opens your mind when it comes to providing care for Soldiers. There are a lot of medical skills we can continue learning on our journey to becoming good medics and saving Soldiers," he said.

Ryan said he plans to take the knowledge he learns here back to share with his unit.

Reeves said every 68W should take this class.

"I just want everybody to know it's available and to contact me if they are interested," he said.

For more information call 531.3036 or email cameron.b.reeves.mil@mail.mil.

ANGIE THORNE/GUARDIAN

See something, say something:

Army observes Antiterrorism Awareness Month

By DEVON L. SUITS

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Terrorism continues to be a persistent threat, as violent extremist organizations and individuals with radicalized ideologies are still a known danger to Army installations and personnel, an antiterrorism expert said Tuesday.

August is Antiterrorism Awareness Month and an opportunity for all Soldiers, civilians and Family members to increase their understanding about extremism, terrorism, insider threats and cybersecurity vulnerabilities, said James Crumley, the antiterrorism deputy division chief for the Office of the Provost Marshal General.

“Each member of the Army community should be actively involved in combatting against these threats through sustained vigilance and prevention,” Crumley said. “These efforts support the Army’s top priorities of people and readiness.”

The threat to national security is becoming increasingly more dynamic and complex, Secretary of the Army Christine E. Wormuth wrote in a letter to the force to highlight the 12th annual month long observance and call to action.

The Army’s protection efforts and personnel must evolve to match the ever-changing threat, Wormuth added.

Army leaders must commit to eradicating extremist activity across the force and apply deterrence efforts, all while empowering personnel to speak up and report a potential risk, Crumley said.

“Lessons learned from past terrorist and extremist attacks have revealed at least one bystander that had observed a pre-attack indicator and failed to report. If you see something, say something,” Crumley added.

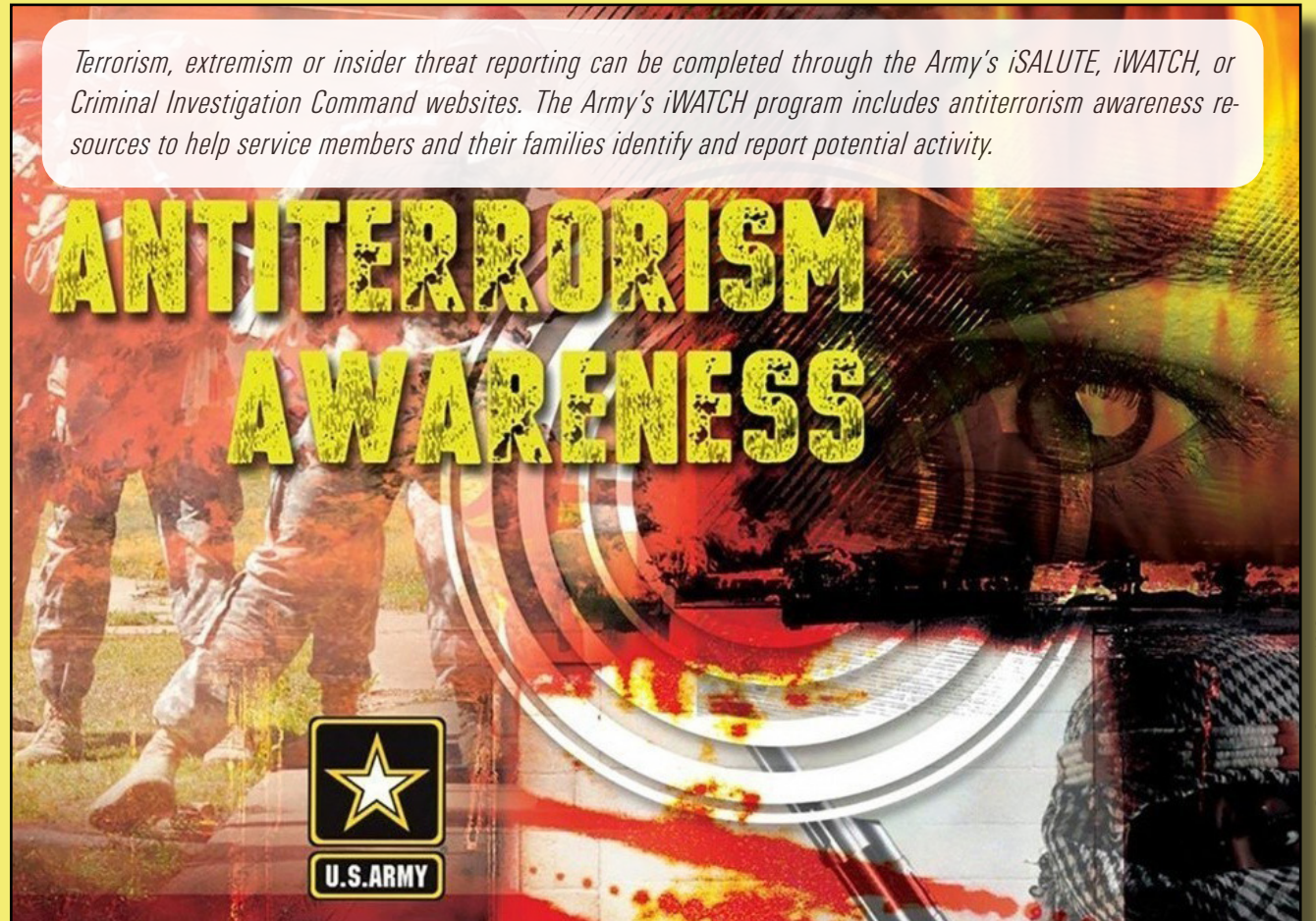
Crumley said that timely reporting is critical to the investigation process and allows military and civilian law enforcement a chance to verify a potential threat.

“An actively involved community is key to preventing a terrorist or extremist attack or an insider threat,” the secretary wrote. “Please take time during Antiterrorism Awareness Month to review your protection plans and empower your communities. Every person is a sensor in our protective network.”

Cybersecurity awareness

Cyber threats are constantly changing in both complexity and scale. Adversaries continue to develop and employ a range of methods to try and bypass cybersecurity systems to gain access to the Army’s networks, Crumley said.

To stem this growing risk, the Army has im-



plemented an array of cybersecurity measures, coupled with proper and sufficient training, to thwart off attacks on the Army’s networks, he added.

“Whether we are on in our workspace or teleworking, the Army community still has to protect their cyber-related information from the enemy. We cannot afford to have this critical information compromised,” Crumley said.

While online, personnel should be watchful and avoid links or attachments from unknown or unsolicited sources.

Individuals should only use trusted websites and inspect all web addresses before selecting them on their internet browser, he said.

Adversaries also employ various tactics through social media and other websites to try to misinform or disinform the Army community, he added.

Individuals are reminded to check the facts and sources of all materials and verify information with multiple legitimate sources when possible.

“You don’t want to take action on something and cause harm or damage to yourself or the Army because you acted on misinformation,” he added. “If it sounds outlandish, then you probably need to check if the information is valid.”

Insider threat

Insider threats pose a risk to the Army’s resources and personnel. Actions by an individual or a group could include espionage, terrorism, unauthorized disclosure of information

and the loss or degradation of assets and capabilities, the letter read.

Early identification and intervention measures help protect the Army’s people, information and critical assets, Crumley said. Personnel who have any information about an insider threat should report it immediately to their chain of command or law enforcement officials.

Crumley acknowledged the complexity behind identifying and reporting an insider threat. In some cases, these individuals could be co-workers, leaders, peers or friends, he said.

“Allow the chain of command or other leadership to do what is necessary to verify (an insider threat). At the end of the day, you may be saving lives or protecting critical Army information and assets,” he said.

Terrorism, extremism, or insider threat reporting can be completed through the Army’s iSALUTE, iWATCH, or Criminal Investigation Command websites.

The Army’s iWATCH program includes antiterrorism awareness resources to help service members and their Families identify and report potential activity. The iSALUTE site allows personnel to report threat incidents, extremist behavioral indicators, and other counterintelligence matters.

Individuals can also report a crime or submit a crime tip through the Army CID website, or on a smartphone using the CID Crime Tips mobile application.

U.S. ARMY GRAPHIC

Army Nurse Summer Training Program offers cadets new experiences

By JEAN CLAVETTE GRAVES
BJACH PAO

FORT POLK, La. — Reserve Officer Training cadets from universities across the country got hands on experience this summer as part of the Army's Nurse Summer Training Program. NSTP only accepts top ROTC applicants and Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, had three of the very best. NSTP cadets had one-on-one training with preceptors from BJACH emergency, labor delivery and postpartum and mixed medical surgical departments.

Cadet Sophia Ganassia, University of Utah, said she joined ROTC to become a nurse.

"Ever since I can remember I wanted to serve in the military and work in the medical field," she said. "The most rewarding part of the NSTP has been meeting and connecting with new people from all over the country."

Ganassia said being a student nurse at BJACH has been a positive and rewarding experience.

"Everyone I've met has been willing to teach and develop me as a future officer and nurse," she said. This opportunity has taught me how to manage my time and emotions in a high-stress environment."

Cadet Alexandra Andrick, Indiana University of Pennsylvania said training at BJACH opened her eyes to what being an Army Nurse is all about.

"Lt. Col. Michelle O'Neil was my preceptor. She was very knowledgeable and kind to me," she said. "She really wants to train and develop me as a nurse and future officer."

Andrick said cadets traveled during their off time and she loved visiting New Orleans while in the state.

While at BJACH the NSTP coordinator, Maj. Markesia Hubbard, provided cadets with an opportunity to try simulators, visit operational units and learn more about the Army beyond the walls of the hospital.

"Learning how to be a better nurse, earning clinical hours and experience is the primary purpose of the summer training program," she said. "However, we wanted to give the cadets a taste of the Army and send them away from this experience enriched by it."

Cadet Phillip Krisko II, Duquesne University, said the most rewarding part for him was meeting new people and experience many of his peers do not get.

"This opportunity has taught me that the Army can provide you with so much. It can



Sgt. 1st Class Axle Shultz, G3 Air noncommissioned officer in charge, assists Cadet Alexandra Andrick with her headset before an orientation flight of the Fullerton Box at the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk during her NSTP.

help you get on your feet and put you on a path that the civilian world might not have led you down. I have gotten to see a lot. It taught me that nursing has many paths that can allow me to hopefully find my purpose," he said.

Golfers take part in Fort Polk Garrison Commander's scramble

By BELLA ARCAND
MWR

FORT POLK, La. — Quality of Life takes top priority at Fort Polk. The monthly Garrison Commander's 4-Person Golf Scramble is just one of the exciting events that allow Soldiers, Family members, Department of Defense civilians and veterans to take time off and enjoy friendly competition.

On Aug. 6, Soldiers and members of the Fort Polk community stepped away from their desks or training to gather at the Warrior Hills Golf Course.

Garrison Commander Col. Sam P. Smith Jr opened his first official Garrison Commander's four-person golf tournament at the Warrior Hills Golf Course at 9 a.m.

"I am very excited to spend some time with each of you," said Smith. "I am here to help, and I will always have an open ear for your concerns."

The Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble is held once a month and tends to foster a healthy competitive spirit among golf enthusiasts.

Shawn Booty, Alan Haymon, Steve Dowden and Jim Sonnier had the lowest scores at the end of the day and took the winning title home, as well as a \$100 gift card for each team member. However, the highlight of every match is the inscription of each winning team members' name on the Anvil Cup, located at



Golfers participate in the monthly Garrison Commander's 4-person Golf Scramble Aug. 6.

the golf course.

Competing teams delivered a spectacular performance and were duly celebrated. Second and third place team members won \$50 and \$25 gift cards respectively. Golfers also had a chance to win golf related goodie bags and door prizes.

The Fort Polk golf course is one of the largest Army Installation golf courses and sports 18 newly renovated greens, 50 tee boxes and

10 sand traps on an accumulated 230 acres. The course also offers spectacular views, water bodies, a new driving range and a challenging design for every skill level.

Beginners can practice their skills on the newly built practice greens and non-golfers may find joy by walking the scenic trails around the golf course.

To register your team for the next scramble visit polk.armymwr.com or call 531.4661

Fort Polk Soldiers found guilty for UCMJ violations

OSJA

FORT POLK, La. — The preamble to the Manual for Courts-Martial states, “The purpose of military law is to promote justice, to assist in maintaining good order and discipline in the armed forces, to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the military establishment, and thereby strengthen the national security of the United States.”

At the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk, the commanding general and subordinate commanders take good order and discipline seriously.

Across Fort Polk, the following disciplinary issues continue to be prevalent: Driving under the influence of alcohol, wrongful use/possession of controlled substances, fraternization, sexual assault and underage drinking.

Below are recent examples of adverse legal actions for units within the Fort Polk jurisdiction.

- A private, assigned to the 46th Engineer Battalion, was issued a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand for driving under

the influence with a blood alcohol content of 0.12%, in violation of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

- A private first class, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for failure to report, disrespect to an NCO and disobeying a lawful order, in violation of Article 86, Article 91 and Article 92, UCMJ.

The Soldier was sentenced to a reduction to Private (E-2); forfeiture of \$1,000 pay; suspended and extra duty for 30 days.

- A specialist, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for failure to report, disrespect to an NCO, disobeying a lawful order and making a false official statement, in violation of Article 86, Article 91, Article 92 and Article 107, UCMJ.

The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to Private (E-1) and extra duty for 30 days.

- A private, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for disrespect to an NCO and for wrongfully using their Government Travel Charge Card, in violation of Article 91 and Article 92, UCMJ.



The Soldier was sentenced to extra duty for 45 days.

- A private, assigned to the 519th Military Police Battalion, was punished under Article 15 for wrongful consumption of CBD, in violation of Article 92, UCMJ. The Soldier was sentenced to reduction to Private (E-1), suspended; forfeiture of \$892 pay, suspended and extra duty for 30 days.

Briefs

Continued from page 3

If you have been in contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive, please do not come to BJACH. Instead, call 531.3011 for a telephone consultation with your provider or visit the nearest testing site.

24/7 prescription center

The Script Center machine located at BJACH’s Entrance A, is available 24/7 for non-refrigerated prescription refills. It’s quick, easy and hassle free:

Call in a prescription refill to 531.3785. Select Option 2 or request a refill at [tricareonline.com](https://www.tricareonline.com).

Prescriptions will be available after noon the next business day. For first time users, bring your Department of Defense ID card and prescription number to register with the Script Center machine.

Once registered, the Script Center can be used 24/7 to pick up refill prescriptions with ID card, username and password or finger print login For more information visit <https://bayne-jones.tricare.mil/Health-Services/Pharmacy>

Vaccination appointments

COVID-19 Vaccination appointments are available for all Soldiers, Family members and retirees at the BJACH Immunization

Clinic. Call 531.3011 or visit www.tricareonline.com to schedule your appointment. Department of Defense civilian employees and contractors who are not TRICARE beneficiaries can schedule an appointment through the Department of Public Health Occupational Health Clinic by calling 531.6131/2706.

ACP hours

- ACP 1 (Main gate on Louisiana Avenue): Open 24 hours per day, seven days a week and on all federal holidays

- ACP 2 (University Parkway, Hwy. 467 north): Open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays.

- ACP 5 (Post office, Hwy. 467 north and Hwy. 10): Open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m.-9 p.m.; open Saturday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed on federal holidays.

- ACP 6 (Chaffee Road adjacent to North Fort housing): Open 24 hours per day, seven days a week and on all federal holidays in support of rotational traffic. Outside of a rotation, open from Monday through Friday from 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays.

- ACP 7 (K Avenue and Alligator Lake):

Open 24 hours per day, seven days a week and on all federal holidays in support of rotational traffic. Limited to tactical and commercial traffic. No personally owned vehicles during rotation. Outside of rotation ACP 7 is open 24 hours per day, seven days a week and on federal holidays to all traffic.

- ACP 8 (Artillery Road and K Avenue, into the Box): Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week during rotation only. Outside of rotation, ACP 8 is closed.

DES vehicles

The Directorate of Emergency Services will release the following vehicles to a towing company for disposal on Aug. 30, if they remain unclaimed. Vehicles are listed with the last four numbers of their VIN number. If one of these vehicles belongs to you, please contact the Fort Polk Police Traffic Section at 531.1806/6675/2677.

2002	Honda	Shadow	2420
2003	SAAB	93	3023
2011	Chevrolet	Cruze	4358
2002	Ford	Taurus	7521
2003	Mitsubishi	Lancer	3693
2009	Volkswagen	Tiguan	0088



Proclamation signing

From left to right: Mark Leslie, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security director, Mitchell Smith, antiterrorism officer, Fort Polk Garrison Commander, Col. Sam Smith Jr., and Jeffrey Sweeney, antiterrorism officer, participate in the signing of an antiterrorism proclamation to instill Army-wide heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent terrorist attacks and protect Army critical resources from acts of terrorism. Recognize and report suspicious activity.



KAVANAUGH BREAZEALE/GUARDIAN

AAFES continues contactless shopping

AAFES

Fort Polk, La. — The Fort Polk Exchange makes contactless shopping safe, simple and easy for Soldiers or Airmen and military Families trying to physically distance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to providing safe, sanitized and secure shopping inside the store, the Exchange offers contactless shopping options for the Fort Polk community:

- [ShopMyExchange.com](https://www.shopmyexchange.com) is always open, including to all honorably discharged Veterans who have confirmed their eligibility at [ShopMyExchange.com/Vets](https://www.shopmyexchange.com/Vets). Shoppers who use their Military Star card receive free shipping on all [ShopMyExchange.com](https://www.shopmyexchange.com) orders.

- Curbside pickup allows shoppers to pick up online orders at the Fort Polk Exchange without leaving their vehicle. When the order is ready, shoppers can park in designated parking spots at the Exchange, and an associate will bring their items to their vehicles.

- Buy online, pick up in store service lets shoppers pick up their [ShopMyExchange.com](https://www.shopmyexchange.com) orders at store BOPIS location, e.g. the customer service desk inside the Fort

Polk store.

“The Exchange takes our commitment to our shoppers seriously. That means doing all we can to ensure their safety,” said Fort Polk Exchange General Manager Ron McDuffie. “Whether shopping in store or online, the Fort Polk community can enjoy peace of mind along with tax-free purchases and military-exclusive pricing.”

The Fort Polk Exchange adheres to Department of Defense guidelines and health recommendations, requiring face masks and six feet of distance between shoppers in the Exchange. To further protect military shoppers, the Exchange has placed clear acrylic shields at cash registers and customer service desks and are sanitizing frequently used surfaces such as PIN pads.

Shopping the Fort Polk Exchange strengthens the military community as 100% of earnings supports Warfighters and military Families. AAFES earnings fund critical military Quality-of-Life programs that promote military readiness and resiliency. In the last 10 years, Exchange shoppers worldwide have generated \$2.2 billion for these programs.



Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Program

How are we doing?

Tell us by scanning the QR code with your smart phone or tablet to leave us an ICE comment.



We are committed to providing the best Customer Service. Please answer “were you satisfied with your overall experience?” If you request a response we will contact you within three working days.



MASS TRANSPORTATION LETTING SOMEONE ELSE TAKE WHEEL



By **ANGIE THORNE**
Public affairs specialist

FORT POLK, La. — In a world of filled with wildfires, droughts, melting ice caps, flooding and more, taking part in Fort Polk's Mass Transportation Benefit Program is just one small way you can choose to possibly diminish your carbon footprint.

The program was established in 2000 for eligible employees and military service members to reduce pollution and traffic congestion, preserve the environment and expand transportation alternatives.

To be eligible for the program an applicant must be employed by the Department of Defense — civilian, military or non-appropriated funds.

Commuters taking part in the MTBP are able to receive as much as \$270 per month toward their van pool fee.

Robert Ellis, Plans, Analysis and Integration Office plans specialist, is the program coordinator. Ellis said the MTBP utilizes the Enterprise Commute program, which greatly enables the commuting process.

"They go out of their way to help us with our commuting needs," he said. "The way Enterprise determines the cost of riding in the van is based on a formula of how many people are riding and the distance traveled. They also factor in gas costs, which can vary, rental costs and taxes," he said.

Ellis said you have to have six people to start a van pool — that's for a mini van.

"The fewer people you have in the van, the better possibility there might be some out-of-pocket expense involved for the riders, but it's still a good deal," he said.

Ellis said, there are about 51 full-time participants in the program and eight vans. Commuters will either ride in a mini van or a 15 passenger van.

"One van shuttles riders to and from DeRidder and the other seven vans in the program



MASS TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT PROGRAM

WELCOME

The Department of Defense (DoD) provides mass transportation benefits, to the extent authorized by law and regulation, to offset commuting costs and to reduce pollution and traffic congestion, preserve the environment, and expand transportation alternatives.

Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) administers the National Capital Region (NCR) Mass Transportation Benefit Program (MTBP) program for DoD.

STEP 1 – DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for the DoD NCR MTBP an applicant must meet the following criteria:
Employed by the Department of Defense. Civilian, Military, or Non Appropriated Funds (NAF) also, Paid interns and summer hires in the NCR who meet the above criteria.

Who is NOT Eligible?

- Contractors / While contractors cannot receive the MTBP allowance they can participate in the van pools on a cost reimbursement.
- Personnel that are on Temporary Duty (TDY) or on detail to the NCR from an area outside of the NCR.
- Inactive reserve personnel.
- Unpaid interns.
- Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) employees (unless appointed to DoD).
- Foreign Exchange employees.
- DoD Employees working outside the NCR. Employees working outside the NCR must apply through their Component's MTBP.
- Daily commute to Fort Polk is within 20 miles.

STEP 2 – APPLY FOR BENEFITS

Application and Benefit Delivery Timeframes

- Applications must be confirmed by your supervisor and approved by your DoD organization's MTBP Reviewing Official.
- Application processing may take up to 30 days.

STEP 3 – START RIDING. Contact the Fort Polk MTBP Coordinator: Mr. Robert B. Ellis robert.b.ellis32.civ@mail.mil or DSN: 531-1503 for more information.

Mass Transportation Benefit Program Website <http://www.whs.mil/MTBP>

Application Link <https://mtbp.whs.mil>

More FAQs Available at: <http://www.whs.mil/mass-transportation-benefit-program>



transport Fort Polk employees that live in Alexandria," he said.

Ellis lives in Alexandria and uses the program himself because it saves him time, money, wear and tear on his vehicle and more.

"I know I would be filling my gas tank as least three times per week, so the program saves me that money as well as any expense I would have when it comes to things like new tires and tune-ups," he said.

Ellis said the program is a great way of building camaraderie with your fellow workers.

"There is a family-like atmosphere once you get to know the other riders in your van," he said. "There's also the fact that since riders don't have to drive, they can relax, catch up on emails, read, sleep or do whatever they want," he said.

Ellis said although they don't have to drive, if commuters still want to take the wheel they

can drive the vans with Enterprise approval.

"The qualified drivers take turns," he said. "One person might drive in the morning and another at night. That way there's always someone fresh driving."

Ellis said the point of the program is to provide Fort Polk with healthier, happier employees, as well as reduced parking and congestion on post and at the gates, not to mention the fact that fewer cars on the road means better air quality and a reduction in carbon emissions.

For those worried about safety, Ellis said as part of COVID-19 safety measures, all riders must wear a mask while inside the vehicle.

Ellis said the MTBP is a great opportunity and any commuter who lives farther than 20 miles away from Fort Polk, more should consider taking part in the program.

For more information about the program send an email to robert.b.ellis32.civ@mail.mil.

Bus **safety** rules for students, drivers to follow

Riders

- Students should enter and leave the bus at school loading stations and bus stops in an orderly fashion - no rushing, pushing, crowding or loitering.
- Remain quiet - no shouting, boisterous activities or talking to the bus driver while the bus is in motion.
- Students should remain seated while the bus is in motion. Go directly to their seat after entering the bus.
- Students should cross the road in accordance with instructions and the provisions in state law. Students should not extend arms or other parts of the body out of the windows.
- Students should get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the scheduled arrival time.
- when the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps away from the curb and line up away from the street.
- If you have to walk on the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk 10 feet ahead of the bus and be sure the driver can see you before crossing.

Drivers

- Watch for children when leaving garages or backing from driveways.
- Watch for children walking in the street.
- Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop.
- Red flashing lights indicate the bus has stopped and children may be

Safety inside bus

FORT POLK, La. — Vernon Parish Assistant superintendent Mike Kay, said COVID-19 safety measures will be in place on buses as the new school year begins. “We will follow the governor’s executive order on a mask mandate through Sept. 1. The students and driver will wear masks while on the bus,” he said.

Kay also noted that if things change, the Vernon Parish School Board will, by law, follow the governor’s executive orders.

Other safety measures include not exceeding bus capacity and sanitizing the bus. “Each bus carries two to three loads of students each day. The bus will be completely sanitized after each load exits and the bus is empty,” he said.

Kay said these things are done to provide as safe a mode of transportation as possible as the new school year begins. Kay said if parents have any questions, to contact their child’s principal.

BEAUREGARD PARISH – 11 AUGUST
VERNON PARISH – 20 AUGUST





POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Members of the 519th Military Police Battalion joined local law enforcement for National Night Out at the Beauregard Parish Fairgrounds.

Clockwise from right: The 519th MP Bn color guard posts the colors for the opening of National Night Out; Spc. Rhonda Peronto talks to a visitor about his aspirations; Sgt. Steven Simms helps a young boy try on police protective gear; Pfc. Christopher Labelle demonstrates obedience training with his military working dog; Spc. Tuwaunna Steel dunks Lt. Col. Shawn Keller, 519th MP Bn commander, at the dunk booth.



KEITH HOUIN/ GUARDIAN



COMMANDING GENERAL'S 3 GUN TEAM COMPETITION

\$25 REGISTRATION
Pre-Registration
Required

**MWR RECREATIONAL
SHOOTING RANGE
AUG 14**

Check - in 8-9AM
Competition 9:15AM

REGISTRATION FORM: POLK.ARMYMWR.COM
EMAIL FORM TO FTPOLKSPECIALEVENTS@GMAIL.COM

CALL 337-531-1959
FOR INFO



Patriot Warrior Restaurant



Breakfast

Served Monday – Friday
0730 – 0900
\$3.65

Turkey Bacon
Oven Fried Bacon
Pork Sausage

Pancakes
Oatmeal
Grits
Biscuits

Boiled Eggs
Scrambled Eggs
Omelets

Home Fried
Potatoes
White Rice
Creamed Gravy
Creamed Beef

Assorted Fruits
Assorted
Smoothies

Lunch

Lunch

Served Monday – Friday
1130 – 1300
\$5.85

Served for lunch and dinner:
Assorted Salads
Assorted Fruit
Assorted Pizzas
Assorted Desserts
Short Order
Soup
Assorted Smoothies

Dinner

Served Monday – Friday
1700 – 1830
\$5.10

Monday

(09 August 2021)

Beef & Broccoli
Blackened Cod
Sweet & Fire Chicken
White Rice
Pork Fried Rice
Oven Baked Potatoes
Herbed Broccoli
Glazed Carrots
Egg Rolls

Tuesday

(10 August 2021)

Chicken Fajitas
Shrimp Fajitas
Mexican Pork Chops
Herbed Baked Fish
Refried Beans
Oven-Glo Potatoes
Mexican Corn
Herbed Green Beans
Jalapeño Cornbread

Wednesday

(11 August 2021)

Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Spinach Lasagna
Chicken Parmesan
Hot Italian Sausage
Lyonnaise Rice
Lyonnaise Potatoes
Seasoned Corn
Herbed Cauliflower
Garlic Bread

Thursday

(12 August 2021)

Smothered Pork Chops
Salisbury Steak
BBQ Ribs
Rotisserie Chicken
Scalloped Potatoes
Wild Rice
Fried Cabbage
Glazed Carrots
Hot Rolls

Friday

(13 August 2021)

Salisbury Steak
Fried Catfish
Fried Shrimp
Buttered Penne Noodles
Home Fried Potatoes
Fried Cabbage
Peas with Mushrooms
Hot Rolls

Dinner

Monday

(09 August 2021)

Chicken Tetrastini
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Grilled Salmon
Parsley Buttered Potatoes
Egg Noodles
Sliced Carrots
Club Spinach
Hot Rolls

Tuesday

(10 August 2021)

Herbed Baked Chicken
Beef Stew
Blackened Salmon
Oven-Glo Potatoes
Rice Pilaf
Asparagus
Corn
Hot Rolls

Wednesday

(11 August 2021)

Stuff Bell Pepper
Chicken with Rice
Beef Stroganoff
Tossed Green Rice
Baked Potatoes
Oriental Veggies
Lima Beans
Garlic Bread

Thursday

(12 August 2021)

Szechwan Chicken
Pork Adobo
Creole Fish
Oven-Glo Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Cauliflower
Green Beans
Hot Rolls

Friday

(13 August 2021)

Chili Macaroni
Chicken Adobo
Fried Pork Chops
Long Grain Wild Rice
Mashed Potatoes
Calico Cabbage
Succotash
Hot Rolls



Geronimo Warrior Restaurant



Breakfast

Served Monday – Friday
0730 – 0900
\$3.65

Turkey Bacon
Pork Bacon
Turkey Sausage
Pork Sausage

Pancakes/French Toast
Oatmeal
Grits
Biscuits

Boiled Eggs
Scrambled Eggs
Omelets

Home Fried Potatoes
Hash Browns
White Rice
Creamed Beef

Monday

(09 August 2021)

Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Grilled Salmon
Long Grain Wild Rice
Oven Browned Potatoes
Green Beans
Calico Corn
Chicken Rice Soup
Philly Steak
Hamburgers
Hot Dogs
Chicken Tenders

Lunch

Served Monday – Friday
1130 – 1300
\$5.85

Baked Beans
Curly Fries
Assorted Salads

Chili with Beef
Cheese Sauce
Assorted Desserts

Tuesday

(10 August 2021)

Braised Pork Chops
Chicken Fajita
Beef Fajita
Garlic Roast Potatoes
Spanish Rice
Glazed Carrots
Green Beans
Cream of Broccoli
Hamburgers
Hot Dogs
Chicken Wings

Wednesday

(11 August 2021)

Korean Pepper Steak
Honey-Ginger Chicken
Garlic Soy Roasted Potatoes
Fried Rice
Veggie Stir Fry
Steamed Broccoli
Vegetable Soup
Chicken Tenders
Hamburgers
Hot Dogs

Thursday

(12 August 2021)

Braised Spareribs
Meat Loaf
Grilled Chicken
BBQ Chicken
Southern Fried Catfish
Baked Mac & Cheese
Candied Yams
Dirty Rice
Collard Greens
Corn on the Cob
Gumbo
Chicken Wings

Friday

(13 August 2021)

Chicken Pot Pie
Honey Garlic Salmon
Scalloped Potatoes
Wild Rice
Herbed Green Beans
Honey Glazed Carrots
Onion Soup
Chicken Tenders
Hamburgers
Hotdogs

Dinner and weekend meals served at the Patriot Warrior Restaurant; Contact your staff duty for transportation

JRTC & Fort Polk & MWR Present



TOBY KEITH

SEPTEMBER 10

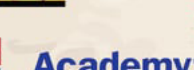
Special Guest
JACKSON
DEAN

HEADQUARTERS FIELD
FORT POLK
TICKETS REQUIRED
GATES OPEN AT 5 PM
DOD ID HOLDERS ONLY

THIS CONCERT IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



Veterans United.
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